



**Phone: 01865 223344**

SONeT is a dedicated neonatal transfer service designed to move babies from one hospital to another for specialised or ongoing care across Thames Valley and Wessex Neonatal Network. SONeT operates from two hubs.

Oxford Hub- covering north patch  
Southampton Hub- covering south patch

#### [SONeT Oxford Hub](#)

Level 2, Neonatal Unit  
Women Centre  
Oxford University Hospital, Oxford  
OX3 9DU  
Email: [sonettransport@nhs.net](mailto:sonettransport@nhs.net)

#### [SONeT Southampton Hub](#)

Transport office,  
Neonatal Intensive care Unit  
Mail Point 607  
Princess Anne Hospital  
University Hospital Southampton  
SO16 5YA  
Email: [sonet@uhs.nhs.uk](mailto:sonet@uhs.nhs.uk)

If you have any comments about the SONeT service, please talk to a member of staff or use the feedback form that the team gives you or you can email us on the above emails.

## THAMES VALLEY AND WESSEX NEONATAL NETWORK



### Hospitals in our Network

- 1) Milton Keynes University Hospital, Milton Keynes  
☎: 01908 995591
- 2) **Oxford University Hospital, Oxford**  
☎: 01865 223201
- 3) Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury  
☎: 01296 316115
- 4) Wexham Park Hospital, Slough  
☎: 01753 634533
- 5) Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading  
☎: 0118 3227430
- 6) Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital  
☎: 01256 313686
- 7) **Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth**  
☎: 02392 283231
- 8) **Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton**  
☎: 02381 208164
- 9) Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester  
☎: 01305 254235
- 10) Poole Hospital NHS Trust, Poole  
☎: 03000 192330
- 11) St Richard's Hospital, Chichester  
☎: 01243 831442
- 12) St Mary's Hospital, Newport, Isle of Wight  
☎: 01983 534337
- 13) Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust, Salisbury  
☎: 01722 425180
- 14) Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester  
☎: 01962 824200

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# Southampton Oxford Neonatal Transport



## Parent and Carers Information Leaflet

This leaflet is to help you understand why your baby is being transferred to another hospital. It is also intended to give you information about the Southampton Oxford Newborn Emergency Transport (SONeT) Service.

Your baby's name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Birthweight \_\_\_\_\_  
Your baby is being transferred to \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
The transport team is \_\_\_\_\_ hub  
Nurse \_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor/ANNP \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambulance Driver \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this is an extremely stressful time for you and we will try to help you in any way we can.

#### Why is my baby being transferred?

Your baby is being transferred to another hospital to receive specialist care. This type of care is not possible where your baby is currently being cared for.

There are many reasons why a baby may require specialised care. These include prematurity, breathing problems, congenital abnormalities, problems due to difficult birth and requiring surgery.

#### How is my baby cared for during transfer?

The doctors at your hospital will contact the SONeT transport team who will travel to the hospital in a specially equipped ambulance. The transport team has a nurse and a doctor or advanced neonatal nurse practitioner that are specially trained in caring for sick babies who are being transported.

The team will evaluate your baby's condition and perform any procedures that are necessary to prepare and stabilise your baby ready for transfer.

#### Explaining the transport equipment

The SONeT equipment provides everything needed to transport even for the most critically ill babies. The equipment includes

- The incubator- a perspex enclosure around your baby, which will keep your baby warm and comfortable.
- The ventilator- breathing problems are one of the common reasons for transferring a baby. The ventilator will help to stabilise your baby's breathing.
- Monitors- during the transfer it is important that we monitor your baby's condition continuously. We measure heartbeat, breathing rate, temperature and blood pressure.
- Syringes for medication - Some baby's need special medication or intravenous fluids, the SONeT team can provide these when necessary. We can also transfer any breast milk you have produced.

*Your baby is in very safe hands*



After the SONeT team have completed preparing your baby for transport you will be able to see your baby. The team members will explain what treatment your baby is receiving and answer any questions you might have. Please don't be scared to touch or kiss your baby.

#### Being with your baby during transfer

The SONeT team (and your hospital) will tell you if it is possible for you or your partner to accompany your baby during the transfer. This depends on your baby's condition, space and safety issues. If it is possible for you to travel, you can bring only one small piece of hand luggage.

It may be that you will have to arrange your own transport to the hospital that your baby is being transferred to. SONeT team will provide you with the hospital information and take your contact details. It is important that you **do not try to follow the ambulance**- this can be dangerous.

If you are still an inpatient at the hospital where your baby was born, it may be possible to be transferred to the same hospital. The timing of transfer will depend on your current condition and the transfer will be arranged by your local hospital.

The SONeT team will let you know when they have arrived at the receiving hospital with your baby. All hospitals encourage parents to telephone and enquire about their baby. We suggest telephoning the hospital one or two hours after your baby reaches the receiving hospital. This allows the team to give you up to date information.

#### Moving baby closer to home

When your baby no longer requires intensive care, the SONeT transport service will transfer your baby back to a hospital nearer your home. Your local hospital will support you and your baby until your baby is ready to be discharged home. This will be discussed with you as well as with your local doctor and hospital.